In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1- 47 and 65-66 prior to calculating fees. Please amend claims 50 and 64.

Please re-write the claims as shown below.

1-47. (Cancelled)

48. (Original) A sustained release device comprising an MPL inhibitory agent that reduces platelet count in a subject, wherein the agent is released for at least 7 days.

49. (Original) The sustained release device of claim 48, further comprising a blood modifying agent.

50. (Currently Amended) The sustained release device of claim 49, wherein the blood modifying agent is selected from the group consisting of an anti-coagulant agent, a fibrinolytic agent and an inhibitor of platelet function.

51. (Original) The sustained release device of claim 48, wherein the MPL inhibitory agent is released in an amount effective to reduce platelet count in a subject to below normal levels.

52. (Original) The sustained release device of claim 48, wherein the MPL inhibitory agent is released at a rate ranging from 0.01 μg/kg/day to 30 mg/kg/day.

53. (Original) The sustained release device of claim 48, wherein the MPL inhibitory agent is released for at least 30 days.

54. (Original) The sustained release device of claim 48, wherein the MPL inhibitory agent is released for at least 6 months.

55. (Original) The sustained release device of claim 48, wherein the MPL inhibitory agent is released for at least 1 year.

56. (Original) The sustained release device of claim 48, wherein the MPL inhibitory agent is released for at least 5 years.

57. (Original) The sustained release device of claim 48, wherein the MPL inhibitory agent is released in an effective amount that does not affect platelet function.

58. (Original) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising

an amount of an agent that inhibits signal transduction from an MPL receptor effective to reduce platelet count, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

59. (Original) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising

an amount of an agent that binds to an MPL receptor effective to reduce platelet count, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

60. (Original) The pharmaceutical preparation of claim 59, wherein the agent binds to an extracellular region of an MPL receptor.

61. (Original) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising

an amount of an agent that binds to a thrombopoietin molecule effective to reduce platelet count, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

62. (Original) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising

an amount of an agent that binds to an intracellular tyrosine kinase that modulates signal transduction from an MPL receptor effective to reduce platelet count, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

63. (Original) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising

an amount of an agent that inhibits binding of a thrombopoietin molecule to an MPL receptor effective to reduce platelet count, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

64. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 58, ~~59, 60, 61, 62 or 63,~~ wherein platelet count is reduced to below normal levels.

65.-66. (Cancelled)

67. (Original) A method for treating a subject having above normal platelet count comprising

administering to the subject in need of such treatment an MPL pathway inhibitory agent in an amount effective to reduce platelet count.